

REMARKS

These remarks are responsive of the non-final Office Action of October 21, 2004. Applicants note with appreciation the indication that the application contains allowable subject matter. Claim 1 and claim 7 have been amended to reflect the allowable subject matter. Claims 2 and 18-25 have been canceled, without disclaimer. Claims 1 and 3-17 are pending. Applicants submit a terminal disclaimer herewith. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claims

Claim 1 recites an article of footwear including an upper and a sole, the sole comprising, a receiving portion including a biasing assembly; and a ground-engaging member having a removable tip including a leg member depending therefrom, the leg member configured to resiliently displace a portion of the biasing assembly based on a general linear motion of the leg member causing abutment of the portion of the biasing assembly with the leg member, and the portion of the biasing assembly configured to resiliently recover after the resilient displacement so as to provide a snap-fit engagement wherein the biasing assembly includes a first biasing member and a second biasing member each being oriented with respect to each other such that, in a direction from a proximal end of the first and second biasing members, respectively, to a distal end of the first biasing member and second biasing member, respectively, a spacing between the first and second biasing members initially increases and then subsequently decreases.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,875,572 to Redburn. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 2. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable and claims 2-6 depending therefrom are allowable as well.

Claim 7 recites an article of footwear including an upper and a sole, the sole comprising, a receiving portion including a biasing assembly; and a ground-engaging member having a removable tip including a leg member depending therefrom, the leg member configured to resiliently displace a portion of the biasing assembly based on a general linear motion of the leg member causing abutment of the portion of the biasing assembly with the leg member, and the portion of the biasing assembly configured to resiliently recover after the resilient displacement so as to provide a snap-fit engagement; wherein the biasing assembly includes first and second said biasing members, said first and second biasing members each defining an obtuse angle and being oriented with respect to each other such that, in a direction from a proximal end of said first and second spring members, respectively, to a distal end of said first and second spring members, respectively, a spacing between said first and second spring members initially increases and then subsequently decreases.

Claim 7 was indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of base claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that claim 7 remains allowable.

Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully urged to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed number. The Commissioner is authorized to charge additional fees for additional independent claims and dependent claims to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733. If any additional fees are required or if an overpayment has been made the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

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